



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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www.dnr.illinois.gov

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

Drought Response Task Force Agency Report July 10, 2012

Office of Land Management

Due to Extremely Dry Conditions, most state parks in Illinois have implemented an "open fire ban" until further notice. Concerns for an extended drought conditions will be access to boat ramps and being able to fill water fowl areas in the fall.

Office of Resource Conservation

Division of Fisheries

Within the past 5 days we have had many fish kills reported statewide. This trend may continue and even get worse if the drought and heat continues:

On Lakes Clinton and Sangchris the kills were relatively large. Both report hundreds of dead fish, mostly striped bass in Sangchris with a few largemouth bass, crappie and yellow bass. Clinton reports mostly dead hybrid striped bass and a few channel catfish, flathead catfish and shad. Powerton has a major fish kill underway. The intake screens have been overwhelmed and plugged with dead fish, and the company is looking for a contractor to set up a secondary net to remove dead fish.

There have been several minor kills on the Rock, Mississippi and Little Wabash Rivers. Several relatively shallow glacial lakes in Northeastern Ill, including the Fox Chain of Lakes have reported dead northern pike, muskies and walleye. LaSalle Lake reports several dead and dying hybrid striped bass and catfish of several species.

Mermet Lake is a shallow lake to begin with but is now at least a foot low. A fish kill could happen there. Pumping was initiated and will continue for 7 days to maintain the pool elevation. After 7 days, the pumping will cease.

There have been numerous private pond fish kill calls to our district staff. No count is available at this time.

Division of Forestry

The Fire Warden Law allows IDNR to enact wardens at very high or extreme fire danger upon request of Regional Forester in seven southern most counties: Jackson, Pope, Hardin, Johnson, Union, Alexander, and Pulaski. The National Rating for Southern Illinois is at High danger rating this week. The other 92 counties must handle the regulation of fire bans or permits themselves.

Numerous calls have been received about dying trees. Trees with insect/disease/ or health problems are at high risk and regular watering should be considered to mitigate this stress on at-risk trees. Projects under the Illinois Forestry Development Act may be eligible for assistance with re-forestation plantings.

Division of Private Lands and Watersheds

Numerous calls have been received about failures of planting on Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) properties. Cost sharing opportunities may be available to replant these properties. Calls for emergency grazing on CREP properties could be made by the FSA on as-needed basis. The grazing would be detrimental to the CREP properties.

Office of Law Enforcement

Conservation Police have responded to fish kills and fire at Illinois Beach State Park. Inquiries have been received about restricting boating due to low water levels. OLE has never restricted boating for low water and is not considering low flow boating restrictions at this time.

Office of Water Resources

The Drought Response Task Force is being formed with the first meeting on July 11 at 10am. IDNR/OWR and IEPA/DPWS will co-chair the task force.

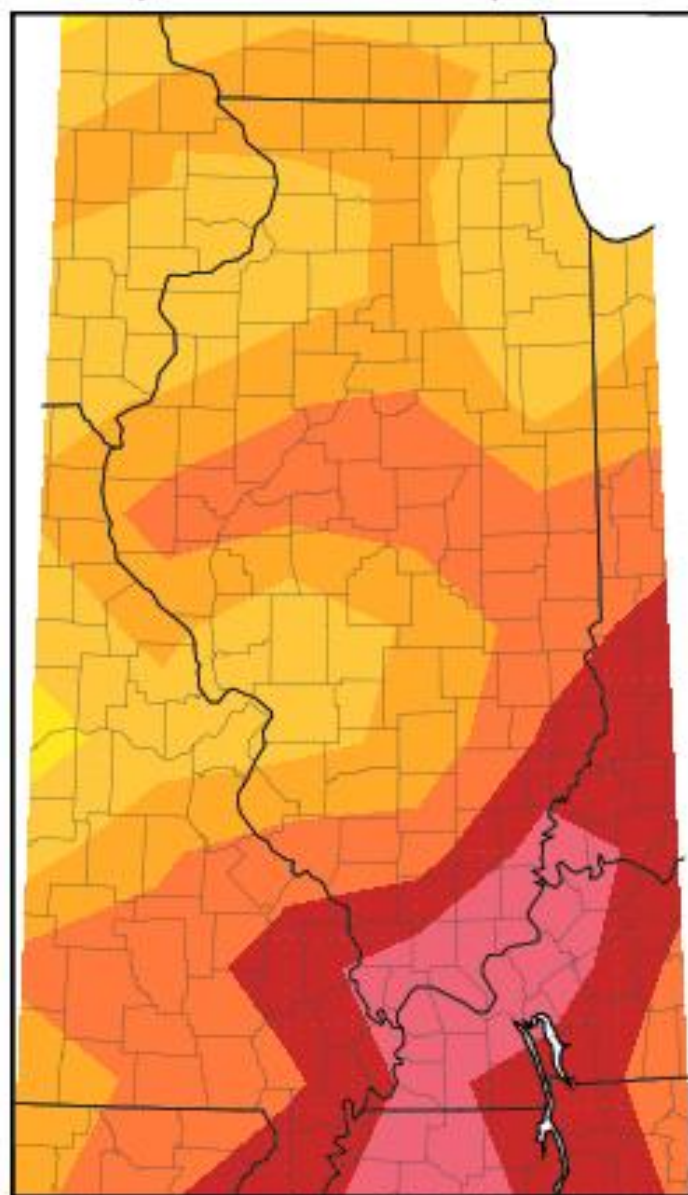
The following handouts were distributed showing:

1. Precipitation Departure from Normal – the amount of rain lacking for a normal year
2. Precipitation received this week – While rain will help in the short term (1week), the precipitation deficit is so large it will not help with long term drought impacts.
3. Real-time stream flows ranked per normal flows on this date
4. Comparison of real-time 7 day average flow with historical stream flows - Central Illinois is within the 5% lowest flows for this time of year and is classified as severe hydrological drought, Southern Illinois is within 6%- 9% of the lowest flows and classified as moderate hydrological drought, and Northern Illinois is within 10% - 24% of lowest flows and is classified at below normal.
5. River and Reservoir Report from St. Louis Corps – Reservoir levels are 0.5' to 1' below normal except Rend Lake gage is showing water levels 0.5' above normal.
6. Season Drought Outlook – Drought outlook for July through September shows the drought persisting or intensifying.

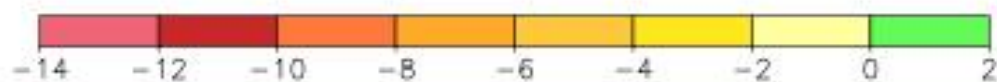
The Kaskaskia River below Lake Shelbyville is extremely low and could potentially impact Holland Energy power plant in Cowden. If stream flows fall below 10 cfs, the power plant has a water supply agreement with IDNR. The IDNR would request the Corps of Engineers release more water from Lake Shelbyville. Riparian owners along the Kaskaskia River also have the rights to withdrawl water for reasonable uses.

Several inquiries have been received about water withdrawl for irrigation uses on Kankakee, Iroquois, and Pecatonica Rivers. If the drought continues, Rend Lake could see conflicting for recreation and water supply.

Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from Mean
January 1, 2012 to July 8, 2012

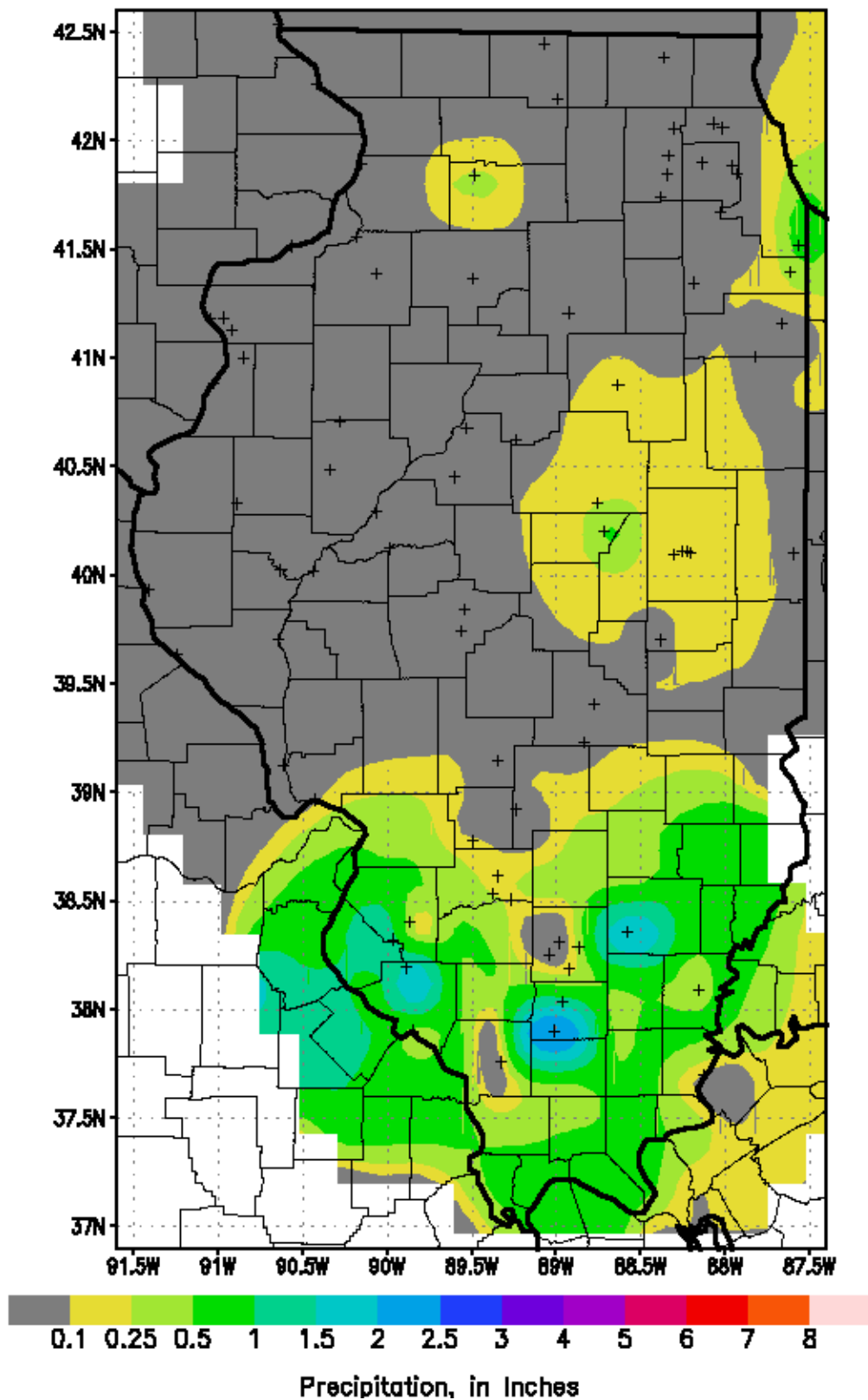


Mean period is 1981-2010.



Illinois State Climatologist Office, www.isws.illinois.edu
Illinois State Water Survey, Prairie Research Institute
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

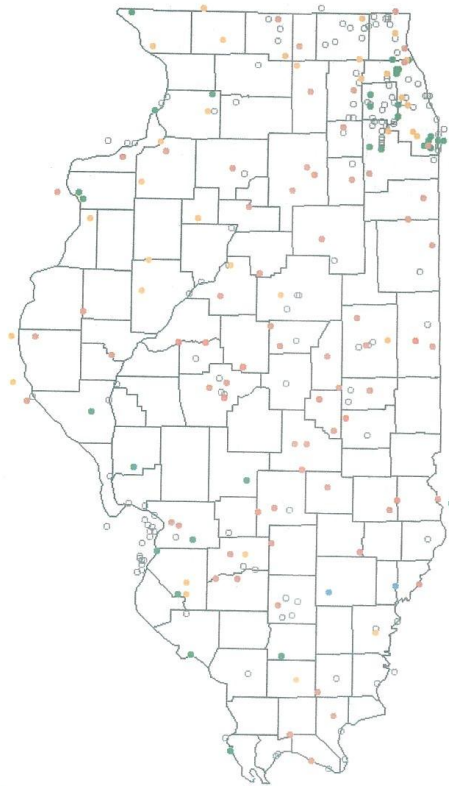
Illinois Precipitation over 7 days:
07.03.2012 13:30 -to- 07.10.2012 13:30



WaterWatch

Map of real-time streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of the year (Illinois)

Monday, July 09, 2012 11:30ET

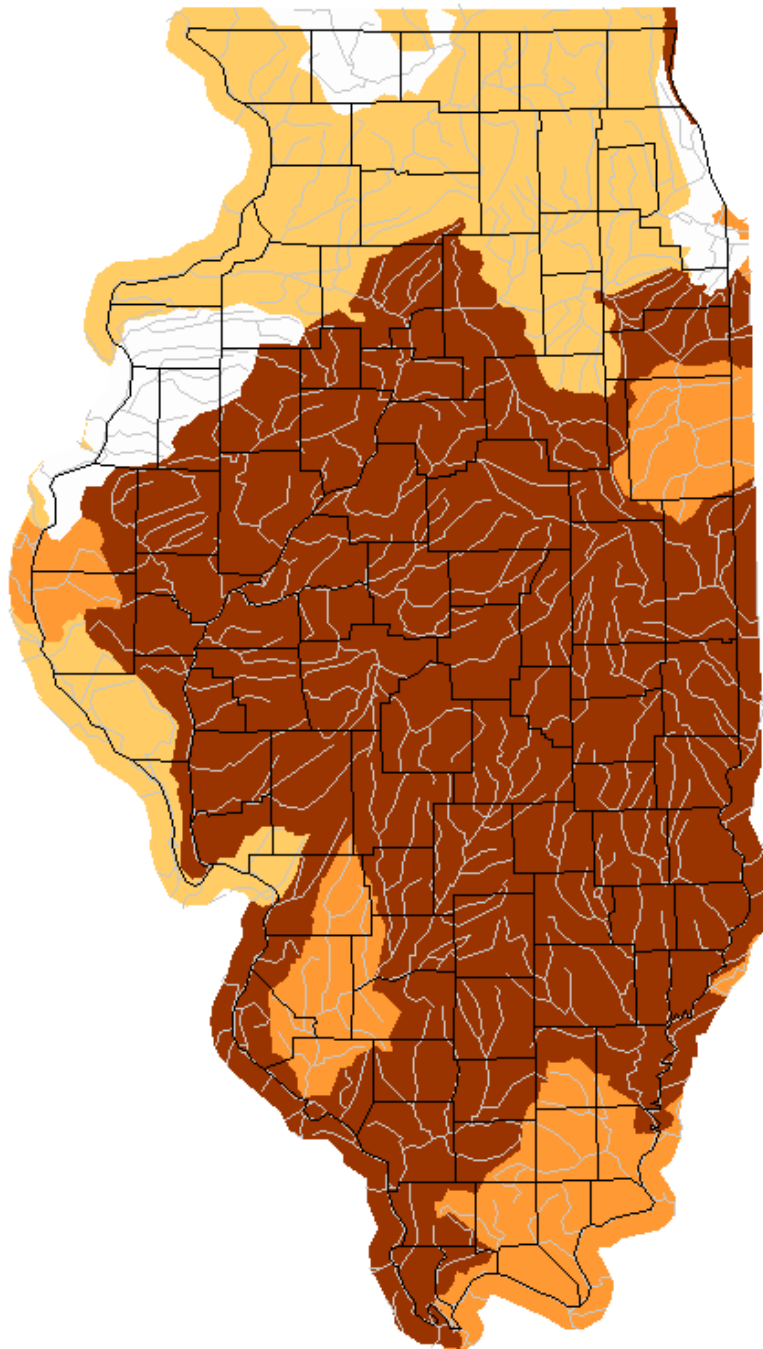


Choose a data retrieval option and select a location on the map
☐ List of all stations ☒ Single station ☐ Nearest stations ☐ Peak flow

Explanation - Percentile classes						
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High
						Not ranked

Map of below normal 7-day average streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of the year. (Illinois)

Monday, July 09, 2012



Explanation - Percentile classes				
Low	≤ 5	6-9	10-24	Insufficient data for a hydrologic region
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal	

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. LOUIS DISTRICT, RIVER & RESERVOIR DAILY REPORT
(PHONE: 800-432-1208)

NOTE: ALL WATER LEVELS GIVEN IN STAGE, UNLESS INDICATED (GAGE ZERO + STAGE = ELEVATION {e}) FORECASTS INCLUDE
OBSERVED PRECIP UP TO 6AM TODAY + EXPECTED PRECIP TO 6AM TOMORROW ONLY.

LAST MODIFIED: Sunday - July 8, 2012 11:02 AM

<http://mvs-wc.mvs.usace.army.m>

National Weather Service River Forecast												
River Mile	Gage Station	6am Levels	24hr Chg	Next 3 days			Forecast Time	Crest/Date	Flood Level	Gage Zero	Record Level	Record Date
				07/09	07/10	07/11						
MISSISSIPPI RIVER												
309.0	Hannibal	11.9	-0.3	11.8	11.7	11.6	07/08/12 10:58		16.0	449.43	31.80	7-16-93
301.2	L&D 22 TW	9.1	-0.3	8.8	8.6	8.4	07/08/12 10:58		16.0	446.10	29.58	7-25-93
282.9	Louisiana	11.9	-0.2	11.8	11.8	11.8	07/08/12 10:58		15.0	437.33	28.40	7-28-93
273.5	L&D 24 HW (elev)	448.1	-0.2							421.81		
273.2	L&D 24 TW	19.2	-0.1	19.0	18.8	18.5	07/08/12 10:58		25.0	421.81	37.70	7-29-93
260.3	Mosier Landing (elev)	436.9	-0.0						441.0	400.00	454.30	7-29-93
241.5	L&D 25 HW (elev)	431.6	-0.1							407.00		
241.2	L&D 25 TW	19.1	-0.0	18.9	18.6	18.4	07/08/12 10:58		26.0	407.00	39.60	8-1-93
218.6	Grafton	15.9	-0.2	16.0	16.0	15.9	07/08/12 10:58		18.0	403.79	38.20	8-1-93
201.1	Mel Price L&D HW (elev)	418.9	-0.1							395.48		
200.5	Mel Price L&D TW	8.2	0.0	7.9	7.7	7.5	07/08/12 10:58		21.0	395.48	42.70	8-1-93
180.0	St. Louis	8.3	0.3	8.0	7.3	6.9	07/08/12 10:58		30.0	379.94	49.58	8-1-93
136.0	Brickeys Landing	10.3	0.7						26.0	357.78	47.00	8-5-93
109.9	Chester	10.6	0.2	10.9	10.7	10.3	07/08/12 10:58		27.0	341.05	49.70	8-7-93
52.1	Cape Girardeau	15.8	-0.1	16.0	16.0	15.6	07/08/12 09:45		32.0	304.65	47.90	8-8-93
43.7	Thebes	14.2	-0.1						33.0	300.00	45.50	8-7-93
20.2	Thompson Landing	-M-							39.0	280.00	51.95	5-28-95
2.0	Birds Point	10.8	-0.1						38.0	274.53	58.33	5-2-11
ILLINOIS RIVER												
263.1	Morris	5.5	0.0	5.3	5.3	5.3	07/08/12 10:52		13.0	478.50	24.60	2-24-85
224.7	La Salle	11.0	-0.0	10.7	10.7	10.7	07/08/12 10:52		20.0	430.00	32.05	12-5-82
164.6	Peoria	-M-		12.2	12.2	12.2	07/08/12 10:52		18.0	428.40	28.80	5-23-43
88.6	Beardstown	9.7	0.2	9.7	9.7	9.7	07/08/12 10:52		14.0	419.90	29.60	5-26-43
70.8	Meredosia (elev)	2.5 (420.5)	-0.2	2.4	2.4	2.4	07/08/12 10:52		17.0	418.00	28.69	5-26-43
61.3	Valley City	2.3	-0.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	07/08/12 10:52		14.0	418.00	26.91	5-26-43
56.0	Florence	20.7	-0.0						31.0	400.00	43.60	8-1-93
21.5	Hardin	19.9	-0.2	19.8	19.8	19.7	07/08/12 10:52		25.0	400.00	42.30	8-3-93
CUIVRE RIVER												
20.0	Troy	4.6	-0.0						21.0	450.27	33.00	4-12-94
MISSOURI RIVER												
97.9	Hermann	6.1	0.3	5.7	5.4	5.2	07/08/12 09:41		21.0	481.56	36.3	7-31-93
67.0	Washington	3.3	0.0	3.4	3.0	2.8	07/08/12 09:41		20.0	457.56		
27.9	St. Charles	10.0	-0.1	10.1	9.8	9.5	07/08/12 09:41		25.0	413.59	39.6	8-2-93
MERAMEC RIVER												
117.0	Sullivan	2.1	0.0						11.0	581.82	32.3	12-4-82
13.4	Union - Bourbeuse R.	0.8	0.1						15.0	488.58	33.8	12-5-82
50.5	Pacific	-1.8	-0.0						15.0	432.53	30.8	12-5-82
34.1	Eureka	1.8	0.0	1.8	1.9	1.8	07/08/12 09:56		18.0	404.18	42.89	12-6-82
14.1	Byrnesville - Big R.	1.4	0.0						16.0	433.69	30.2	8-21-15
22.1	Valley Park	-3.6	0.2						16.0	392.92	39.7	12-6-82
6.0	Arnold	5.7	0.1						24.0	373.21	45.3	8-1-93
OHIO RIVER												
42.8	Paducah	16.2	0.1	16.1	15.8	15.7	07/08/12 09:45		39.0	286.30	62.4	2-2-37
2.0	Cairo	13.0	-0.0	13.1	13.2	13.1	07/08/12 09:45		40.0	270.47	61.72	5-2-11
WASAKIA RIVER												

7/8/12 8:41 |

135.7	Vandalia	2.3	-0.0
18.6	Red Bud (elev)	368.7	-0.1
0.8	L&D HW (elev)	368.9	0.0
0.8	L&D TW (elev)	356.0	0.2

18.0	453.30	27.3	6-29-5
374.0	300.00	394.3	8-6-93
	300.00	394.4	8-6-93
	300.00	394.4	8-6-93

86.6	Plumfield	6.6	-0.0
36.6	Murphysboro	3.6	-0.0

20.0	353.24	31.8	5-1-96
22.0	335.50	42.0	5-15-6

Home

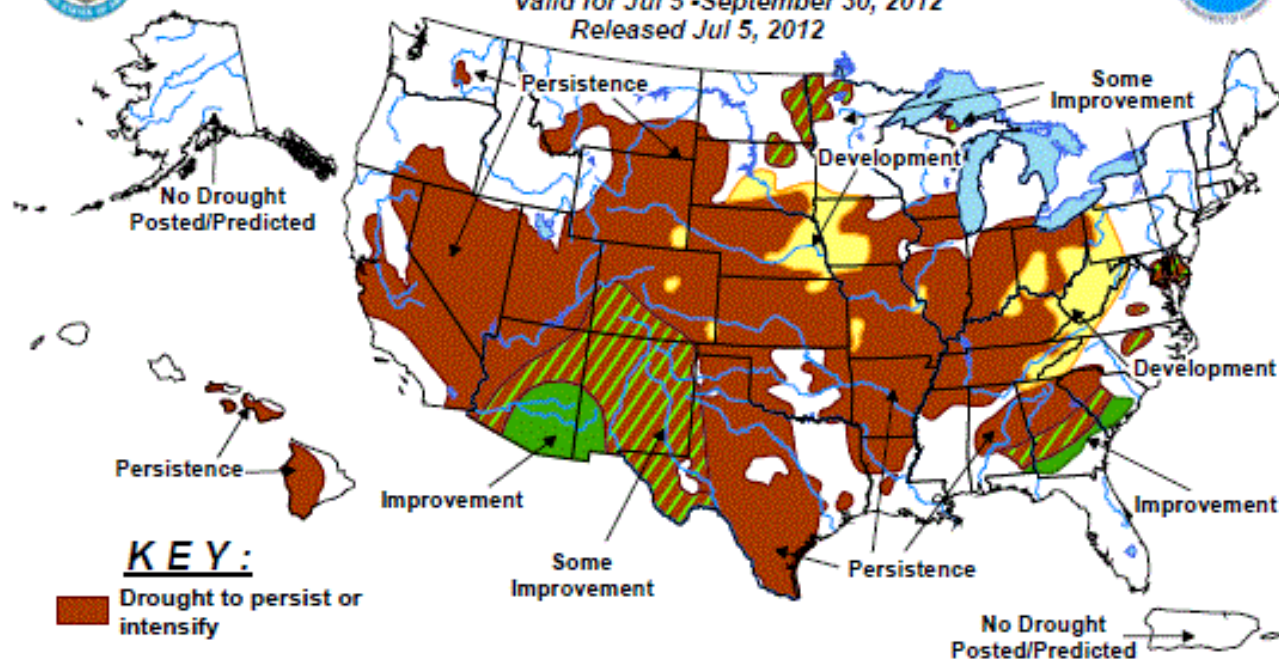


U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for Jul 5 - September 30, 2012

Released Jul 5, 2012



KEY:

-  Drought to persist or intensify
-  Drought ongoing, some improvement
-  Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
-  Drought development likely

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events — such as individual storms — cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications — such as crops — that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.